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ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS: ENERGY

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President, H.E. Mr. Karel Kovanda (Czech Republic), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolutions I and II, contained in document E/1996/24

Coordination of the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system in the field of energy

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering the crucial role of energy in sustainable development,

Noting the continuing need for enhancing energy supplies and improving the living conditions in developing countries,

Recognizing the need to evolve strategies and programmes to ensure a cost-effective and sustainable regime of energy supply and consumption in the twenty-first century,

Bearing in mind the views and recommendations of the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development on the issues of medium-term planning and coordination in energy,

Recalling decision 4/15 of the Commission on Sustainable Development, in which the Commission requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report for consideration by the Commission at its fifth session, covering an inventory of ongoing energy-oriented programmes and activities within the United Nations system, as well as proposals for arrangements, as appropriate, that might be needed to foster the linkage between energy and sustainable development within the United Nations system,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to take into account the report and views of the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development when preparing the report requested in decision 4/15 of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report, taking into account, as appropriate, the views of the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development, on the possibilities of strengthening the coordination of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the field of energy within the framework of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, and to submit this report, through the Council, to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-second session;

3. Further requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the regional commissions and other entities within the United Nations system, to address in the same report the need to enhance the capability of the system in the field of energy for sustainable development, and to explore all possible options for a high-level discussion in this context, taking into account the results of the fifth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development and of the special session of the General Assembly scheduled for June 1997, as well as the guidance provided by the relevant environmental conventions and their respective conferences of the parties, in particular the United Nations Framework Convention in Climate Change.